



New England Defense Summit Set for April

Regional Aerospace and Defense Exchange Summit to offer insight and trends analysis of federal spending changes that will impact

New England's defense industry

HARTFORD, Conn. – Manufacturers, educators, and government agencies have an extraordinary two-day opportunity to see what the future holds for the region's defense industry at the Regional Aerospace and Defense Exchange (RADE) New England Defense Summit 2016 on April 14-15, 2016 at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford.

RADE is a Department of Defense Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) initiative established to support a robust New England aerospace and defense community. In partnership with Connecticut's Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), participating states include Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

The RADE summit will offer expert knowledge, insight and trends analysis of federal spending changes and the impact on New England's defense industry.

"This unique conference gives attendees an opportunity to hear from national experts and attend one-on-one meetings and content-relevant breakout sessions with a variety of government and industry representatives," explains DECD Commissioner Catherine Smith. "With a focus on regional economic and workforce development issues, the summit is a must-attend event for everyone involved in the defense industry."

The summit is being organized by DECD and the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology Inc. as part of an OEA award to the state.

The summit will include opportunities to learn how and where potential shifts in defense contracting will have significant impact. Participants will discover the range of New England states' OEA program resources to address these challenges, including a unique, online tool that will help assess and analyze the overall dependency of the region's supply chain on DoD spending.

The conference format will offer a variety of networking options for DoD and prime contractors, supply chain manufacturers, economic and workforce development specialists, government agencies, and academic partners.

All attendees must register prior to the event. Early bird registration rates are available now. For additional information, summit schedule and more, visit www.rade-commons.org/summit.

About DECD

The <u>Department of Economic and Community Development</u> is the state's lead agency responsible for strengthening Connecticut's competitive position in the rapidly-changing, global economy.

About CCAT

<u>Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology Inc.</u> (CCAT) is a nonprofit organization, headquartered in East Hartford, Conn., that advances innovation in applied technologies, IT strategies, STEM education, career development, and energy solutions. By creating and leading state, regional, and national partnerships, CCAT inspires and helps manufacturers, academia, government and nonprofit organizations to succeed.

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Contacts:

Jim Watson, DECD 860.270.8182 | <u>jim.watson@ct.gov</u>

Karen Jarmon, CCAT 860.282.4211 | kjarmon@ccat.us